

Agenda Item	4
Report No	CIA/36/25

Committee: City Of Inverness Area Committee

Date: 04/11/2025

Report Title: Scottish Fire and Rescue Area Committee Performance Report

Report By: Local Senior Officer for Highlands

1 Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 This report provides an update to City of Inverness Area Committee Members on progress against the priorities outlined in the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service Area Committee Plan.
- 1.2 Priority areas are identified through a range of Intervention, Prevention and Protection activities which are delivered through partnership to reduce the risk to the communities of the City of Inverness.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Committee Members are invited to **comment** and **scrutinise** the attached Area Performance Report.

3 Implications

- 3.1 **Resource** - There are no implications arising from this report
- 3.2 **Legal** - There are no implications arising from this report
- 3.3 **Community (Equality, Poverty, Rural and Island)** - There are no implications arising from this report
- 3.4 **Climate Change / Carbon Clever** - There are no implications arising from this report
- 3.5 **Risk** - There are no implications arising from this report
- 3.6 **Health and Safety (risks arising from changes to plant, equipment, process, or people)** – There are no implications arising from this report
- 3.7 **Gaelic** - There are no implications arising from this report

4 City Of Inverness Area Committee

- 4.1 The attached performance report provides the current figures for Quarters Q1 & Q1 of 2025 – 26 and from the previous three reporting years from the central Scottish Fire and Rescue Service (SFRS) performance management database against the key indicators and timelines from previous reports. Please note that turnaround times and statistics available at this time of year can be delayed and some that have not yet been processed may carry forward to the next quarter.
- 4.2 In achieving priorities within the Area Plan work is ongoing within our current HFSV framework as we move towards the implementation of a new system which will significantly increase information sharing between partner agencies and ensure our resources are targeted towards the most vulnerable in our communities. PDIR's are routinely carried out at all domestic incidents regardless of type which are aimed at reducing accidental dwelling house fires following our attendance.

The continued application of the Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS) Policy provides a means of targeting premises that the Service attends repeatedly and by engagement reduce the number of calls. The SFRS UFAS Policy Public Consultation has recently been agreed by the SFRS Board and the response to AFAs agreed because of public consultations will come into effect.

- 4.3 It must be emphasised that the baseline figures for some of these indicators within the report are very low and this can make meaningful statistical analysis challenging. The low figures can also make it inappropriate to provide detailed data analysis which could compromise personal information
- 4.4 There were **22 Accident Dwelling Fires (ADF)** which is an increase compared with previous reporting period. The majority are classed as low severity, requiring little or no intervention from the Service and minimal fire damage. There were **0 ADF Fatalities**, and **4 ADF Casualties**. All ADF's are offered Home Fire Safety Visits and agency referrals where required. There were **67 Deliberate Fires**, **51 were Deliberate Secondary Fire**, this is slightly higher than previous quarter. Referrals are made to other agencies for those at work within our communities.

There were **7 Non-Domestic Building Fires** which is slightly higher than the previous period.

We attended **22 Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs)** which is slightly lower than the previous report.

There was **2 RTC Related Fatality** and **18 RTC Related Injuries**.

Our Prevention teams are working with partner agencies through the Highland Road Safety group, older driver Virtual Reality Scheme and Road Safety Scheme for new drivers.

We attended **153 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)** showing a slight increase, the figure continues to remain low as we have stopped attending AFA call outs to commercial business and workplace premises, such as factories, offices, shops and leisure facilities unless a fire has been confirmed. Our control room operators now ask anyone who reports a fire alarm to check whether there is an actual fire or signs of fire, before sending the nearest fire appliance. This does not apply to sleeping premises, such as hospitals, care homes, hotels or domestic dwellings who will receive the full pre-determined attendance (PDA). This change follows the SFRS public consultation in 2021.

Our Community Safety Advocates and Station personnel undertook **187 Home Fire Safety Visits**. All visits targeted the most at risk in our communities.

Designation: Local Senior Officer for Highlands

Date: 04/11/2025

Author: Station Commander Allan McLean

Background Papers: City Of Inverness Committee Performance Report

Appendices:



Highland

City of Inverness Area Committee

2025-26 Q1 & Q2

Scrutiny Report



SCOTTISH
FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

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Highland

City of Inverness Area Committee

2025-26 Q1 & Q2

Scrutiny Report

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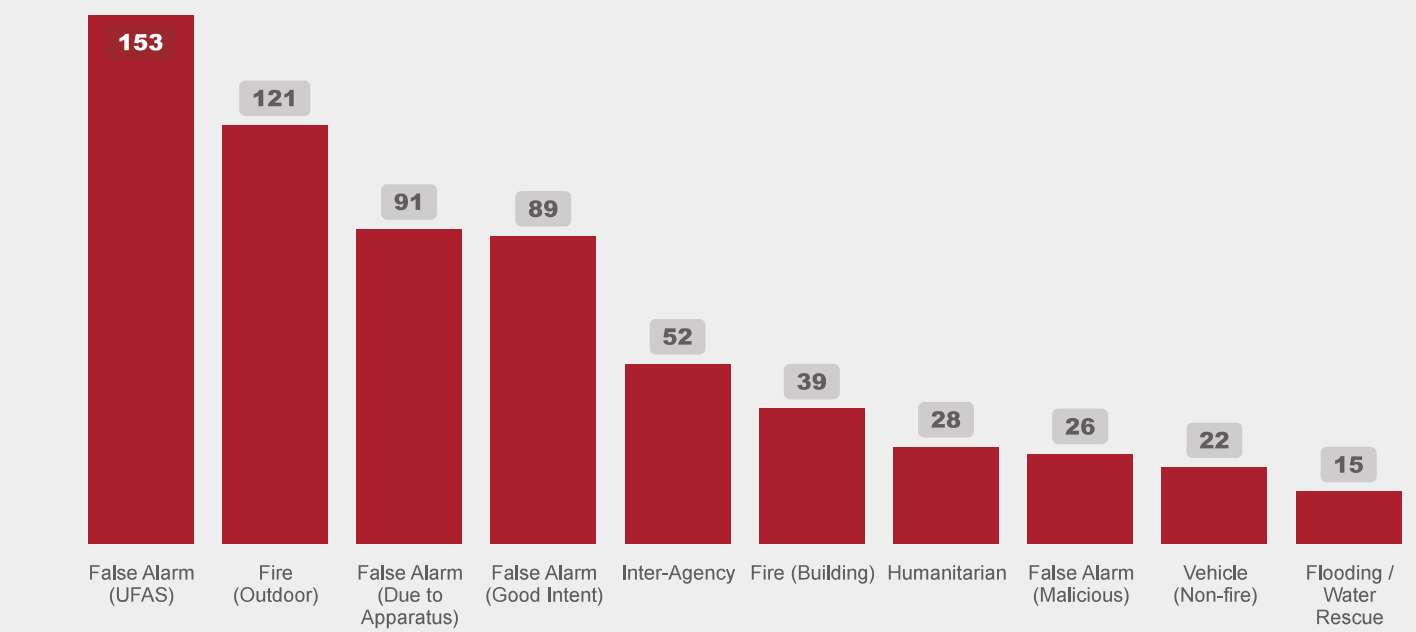
1	Summary
2	Trends
3	Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADFs)
4	Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties
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About the statistics within this report

The activity totals and other statistics quoted within this report are published in the interests of transparency and openness. They are provisional in nature and subject to change as a result of ongoing quality assurance and review. Because all statistics quoted are provisional there may be a difference in the period totals quoted in our reports after local publication which result from revisions or additions to the data in our systems. The Scottish Government publishes official statistics each year which allow for comparisons to be made over longer periods of time.

 688 Total Incidents (Incl. Incompletes)	 172 Fires	 145 Non-Fire Incidents	 359 False Alarms	 153 UFAS
 47 People Rescued by Firefighters	 4 People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Fires)	 0 Fire Fatalities	 34 People Receiving First Aid or Hospital Treatment (Non-Fire)	 2 Non-Fire Fatalities
 187 Home Fire Safety Visits	 61 Fire Safety Audits			

Top 10 Incident Types

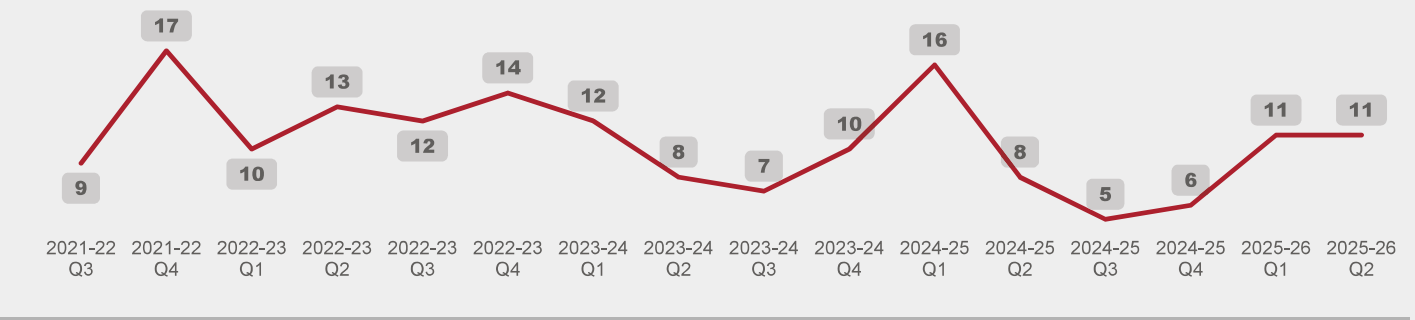


The information above provides a summary of the six-months (1 April - 30 September 2025) activity against headline indicators. It aims to provide - at a glance - our direction of travel during the current reporting period.

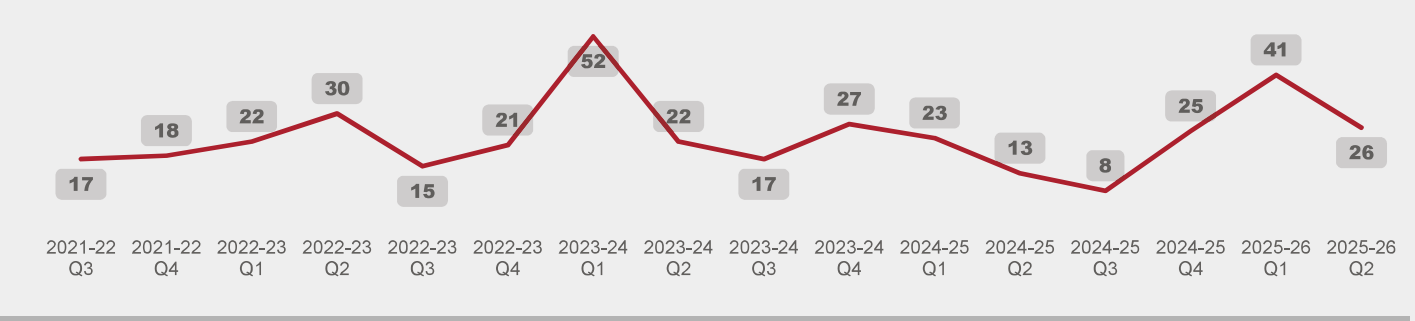
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

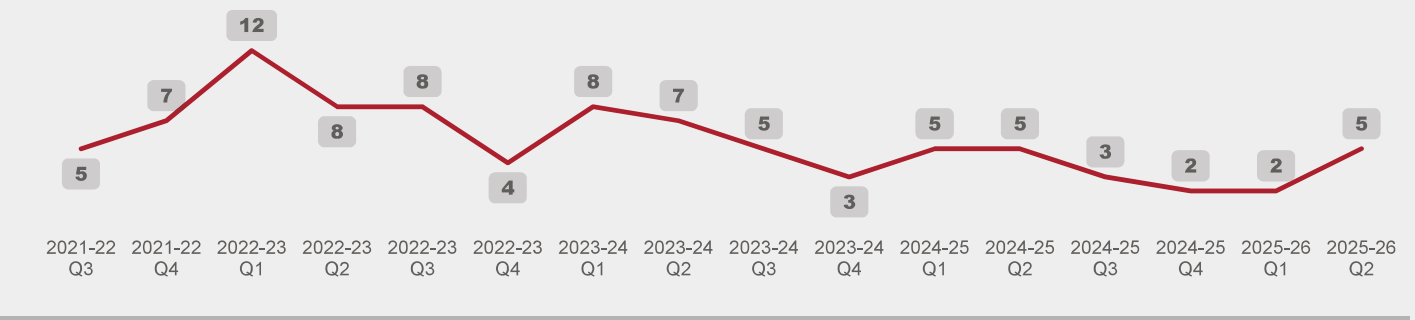
Accidental Dwelling Fires



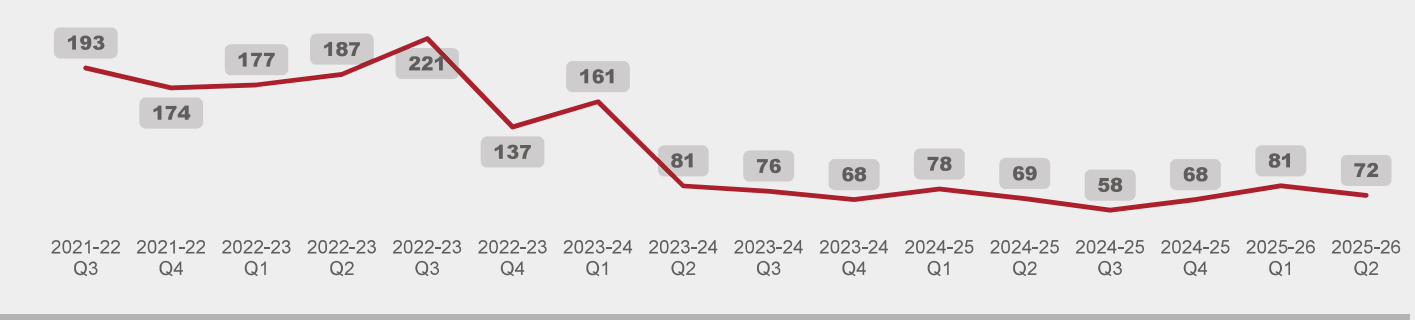
Deliberate Fires



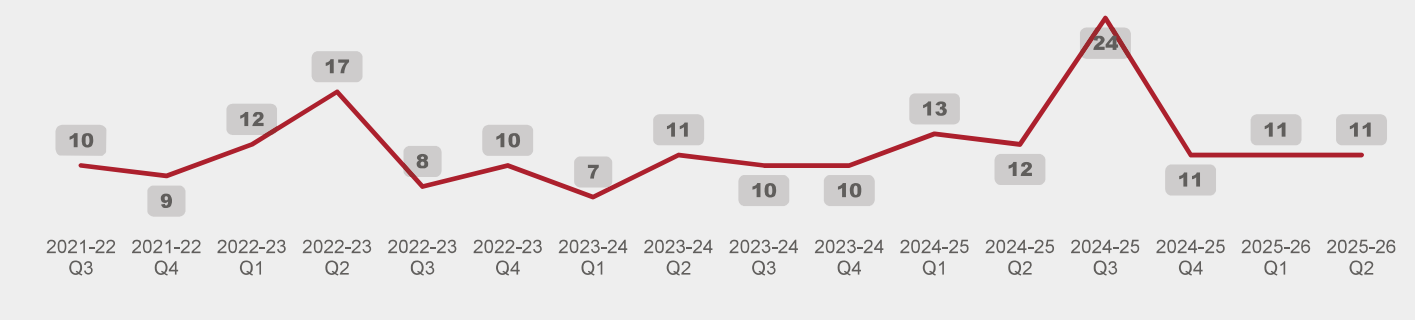
Non-Domestic Fires



Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals



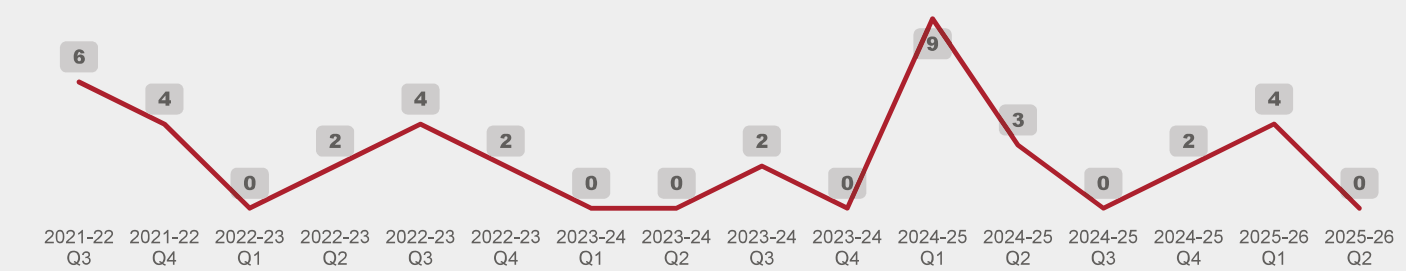
Road Traffic Collisions



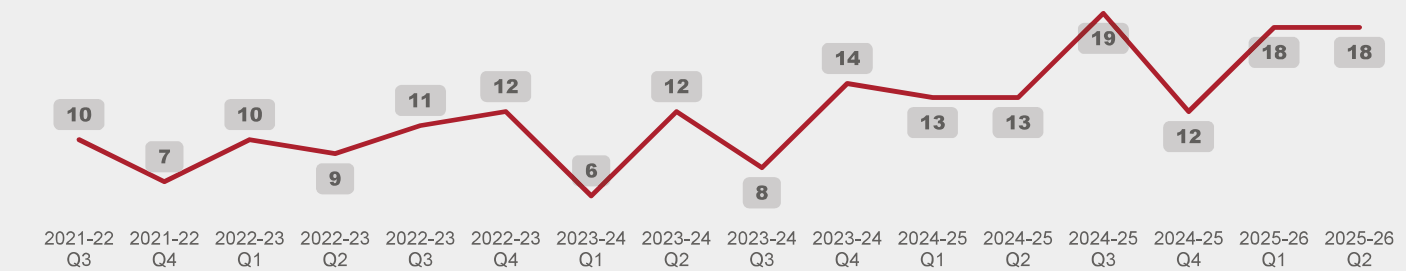
2. Trends

Previous 16 quarters (4 years)

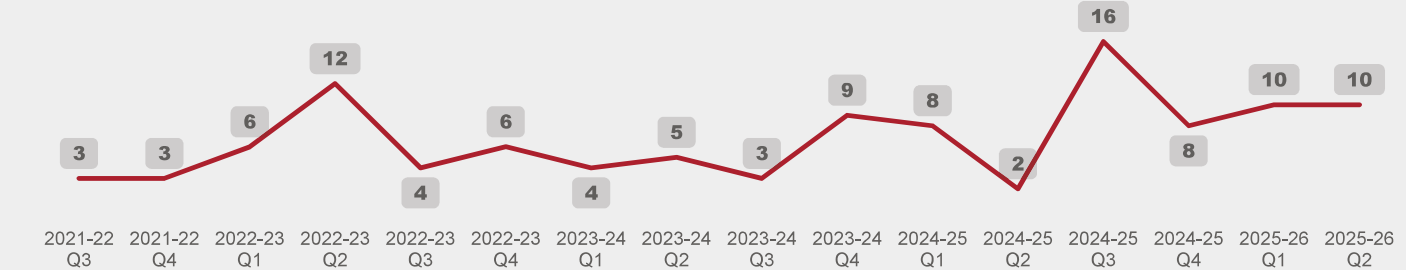
Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties



Non-Fire Casualties



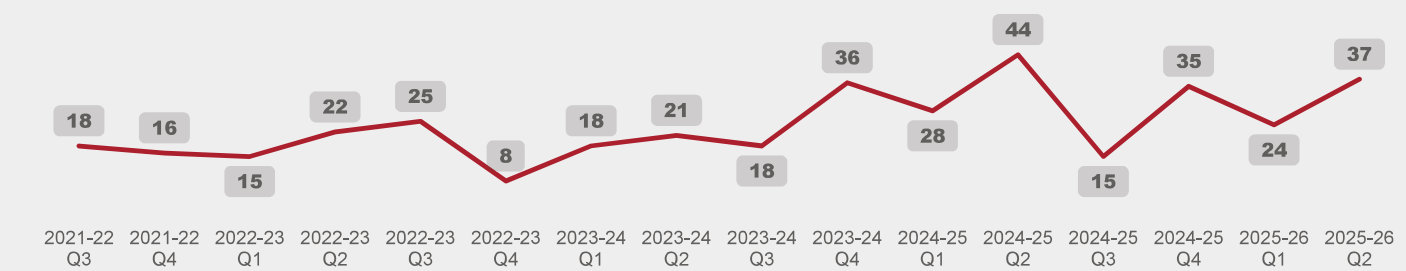
Road Traffic Collision Casualties



Home Fire Safety Visits



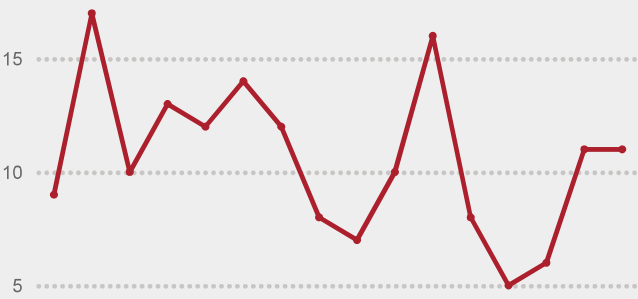
Fire Safety Audits



3. Accidental Dwelling Fires

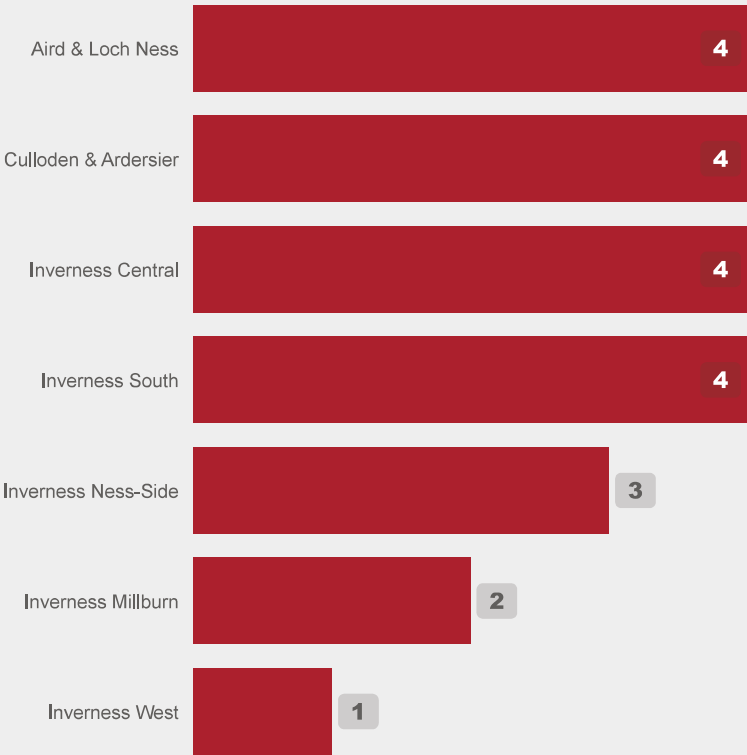
2025-26 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)

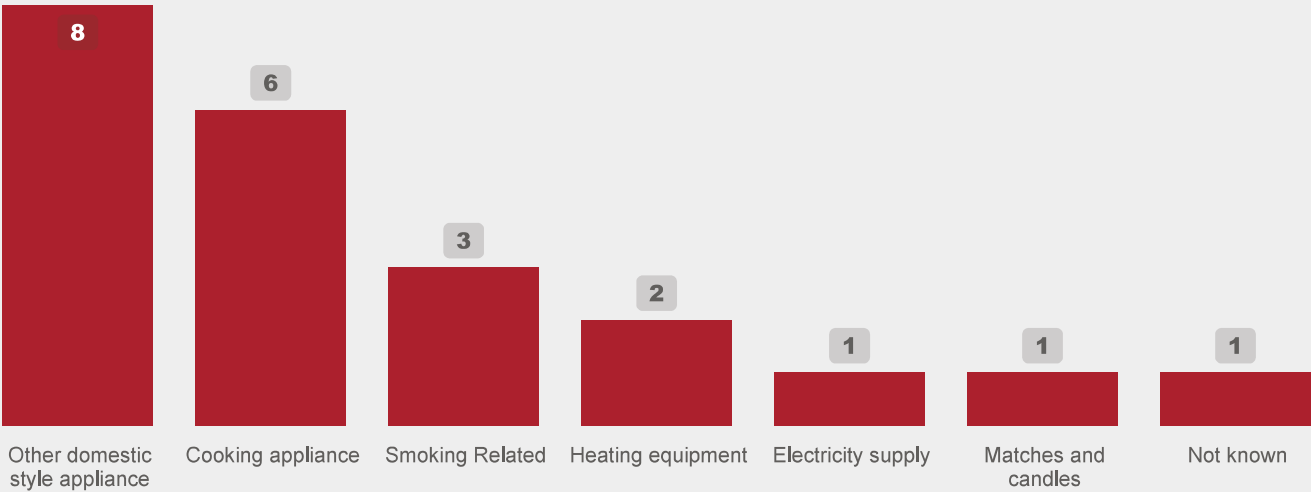


Extent of Damage	Incidents
Limited to item 1st ignited	8
Limited to room of origin	5
Not applicable	5
Limited to floor of origin (not whole building)	2
Limited to 2 floors (not whole building)	1
Whole building	1

Incidents by Ward



Source of Ignition (Top 10)



22

Accidental Dwelling Fires
in this period

There were **22 Accidental Dwelling Fires (ADFs)** which is an increase when compared to the previous reporting period. How the majority are classed as low severity, requiring little or no intervention from the Service and minimal fire damage.

4. Accidental Dwelling Fire Casualties

2025-26 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
Overcome by gas, smoke or toxic fumes; asphyxiation	2
Breathing difficulties (Other than 'Overcome by gas, smoke or toxic fumes, asphyxiation')	1
Burns - slight	1

Casualties by Ward



4

Non-Fatal Casualties

0

Fatal Casualties

0

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



2

First Aid Given at Scene



2

Hospital Slight Injuries



0

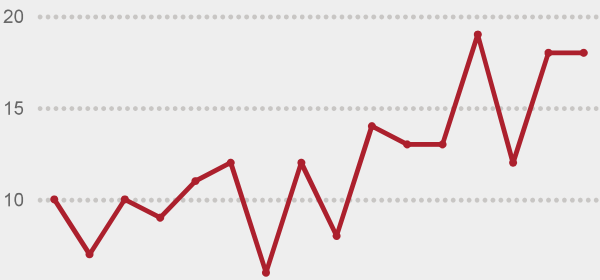
Hospital Serious Injuries

There were **0 ADF Fatalities**, however there were **4 ADF Casualties**. It should be noted that these figures do not include those who have been recommended to have a precautionary check up. All ADFs are offered Home Fire Safety Visits and agency referrals where required.

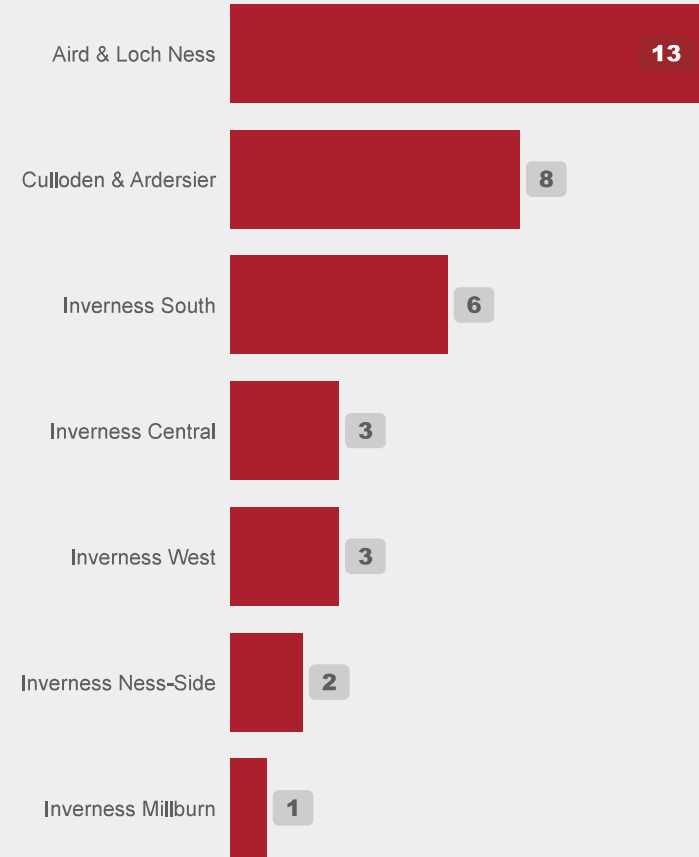
5. Non-Fire Casualties

2025-26 Q1 & Q2

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Casualties by Ward



Nature of Injury/Cause of Death	Casualties
Fracture	11
Back / Neck injury (spinal)	4
Chest / Abdominal injury	4
Bruising	3
Cuts/Lacerations	3
Other	3
Other medical condition	3
Not known	2
Impalement	1
Other physical injury	1
Unconscious, fitting or unresponsive (no other evident significant injury)	1

34

Non-Fatal Casualties

2

Fatal Casualties

47

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



3

First Aid Given at Scene



15

Hospital Slight Injuries



16

Hospital Serious Injuries

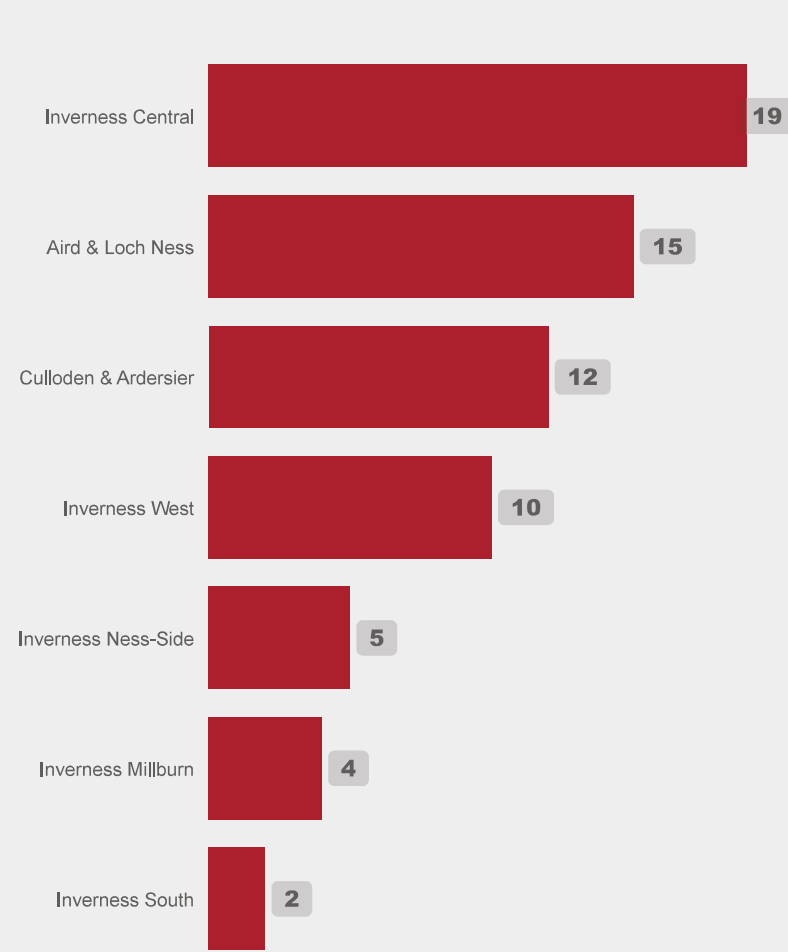
There were 2 Fatalities and 34 Non-Fatal Casualties during this reporting period.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Property Type	Incident
Grassland, woodland and crops	51
Dwelling	5
Other outdoors (including land)	4
Outdoor structures	2
Road Vehicle	2
Non Residential	1
Outdoor equipment and machinery	1
Refuse	1

Incidents by Ward



67

Deliberate Fires
in this period

Hour of Day

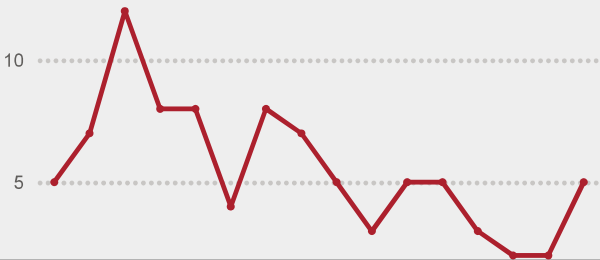


There were **67 Deliberate Fires** in this reporting period, which is higher than in the previous reporting period. Referrals are made to other agencies for those at work within our communities.

7. Non-Domestic Fires

2025-26 Q1 & Q2

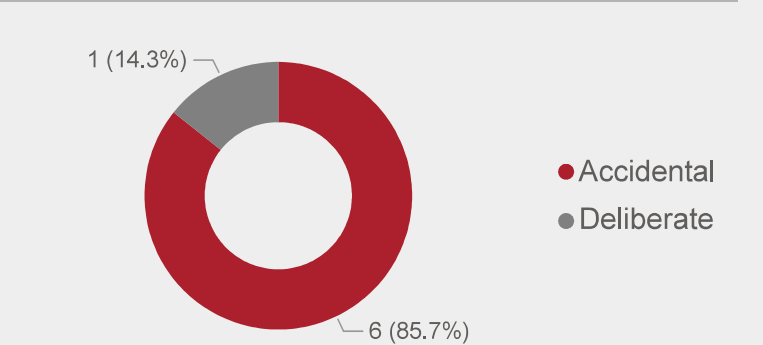
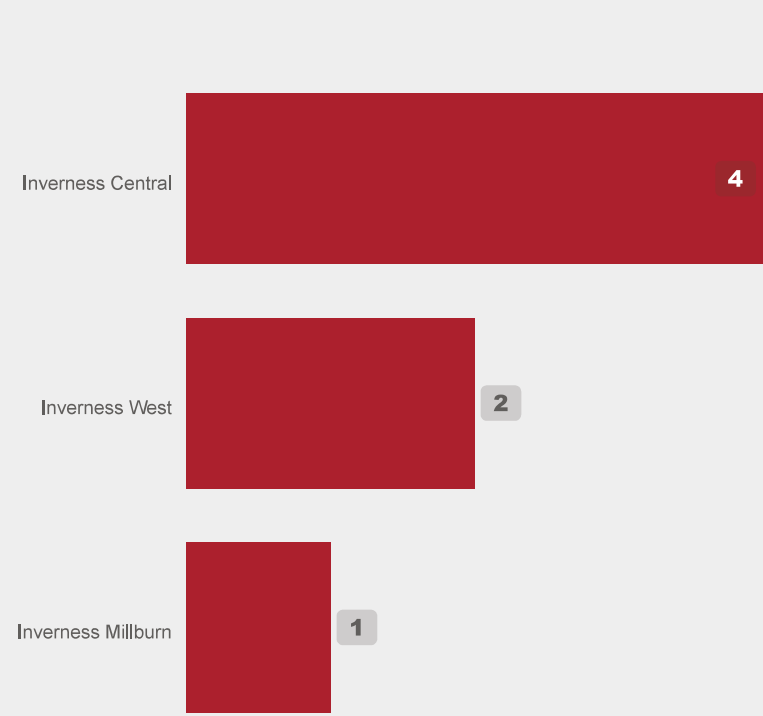
Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Top 15 Property Types

Property Type	Incidents
Hospitals and medical care	3
Food and Drink	2
Hotel/motel	1
Other Residential Home	1

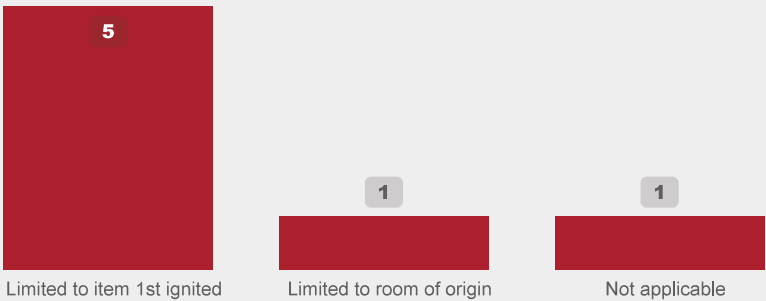
Incidents by Ward



7

Non-Domestic
Fires in this
period

Extent of Damage

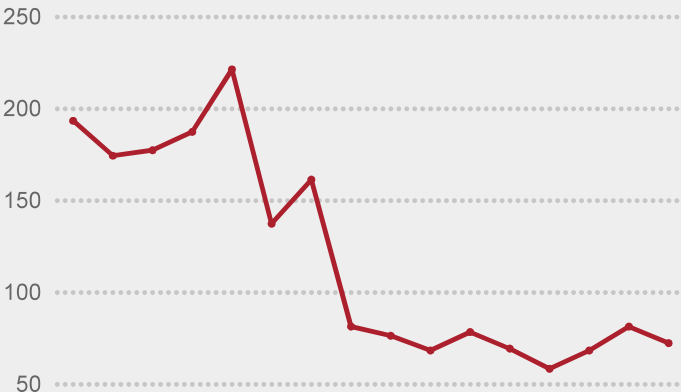


During this period, there were 7 Non-Domestic Fires which is slightly higher than in the previous period.

8. Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals

2025-26 Q1 & Q2

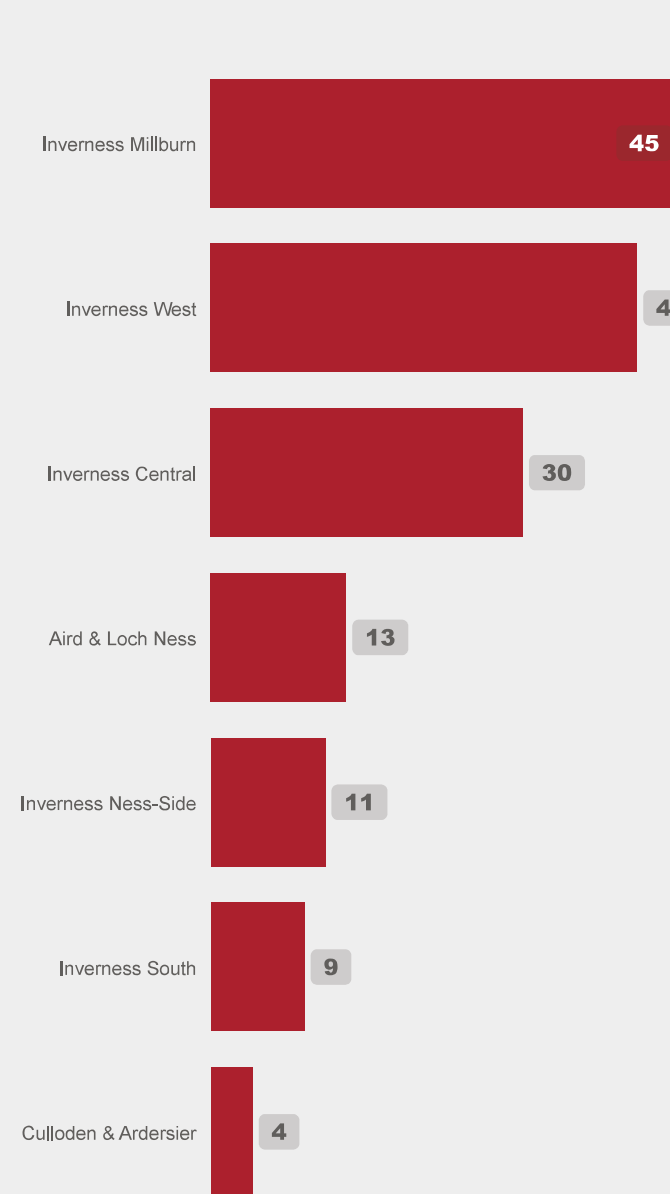
Trend by Quarter (4 years)



Top 15 Property Types

Property Type	Incidents
Hospitals and medical care	59
Residential Home	22
Hotel/motel	18
Sheltered Housing - not self contained	8
Food and Drink	7
Nurses'/Doctors' accommodation	6
Entertainment and culture	5
Hostel (e.g. for homeless people)	5
Other Residential Home	4
Retail	4
Education	3
Other holiday residence (cottage, flat, chalet)	2
Student Hall of Residence	2
Youth hostel	2
Boarding House/B&B other	1
Offices and call centres	1
Public admin, security and safety	1
Religious	1
Sporting venues	1
Transport buildings	1

Incidents by Ward



153

Unwanted Fire Alarm
Signals in this period

We attended **153 Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals (UFAS)** which shows a slight increase, the figure continues to remain low following the Service's change to attend at commercial businesses and workplace premises.

Trend by Quarter (4 years)



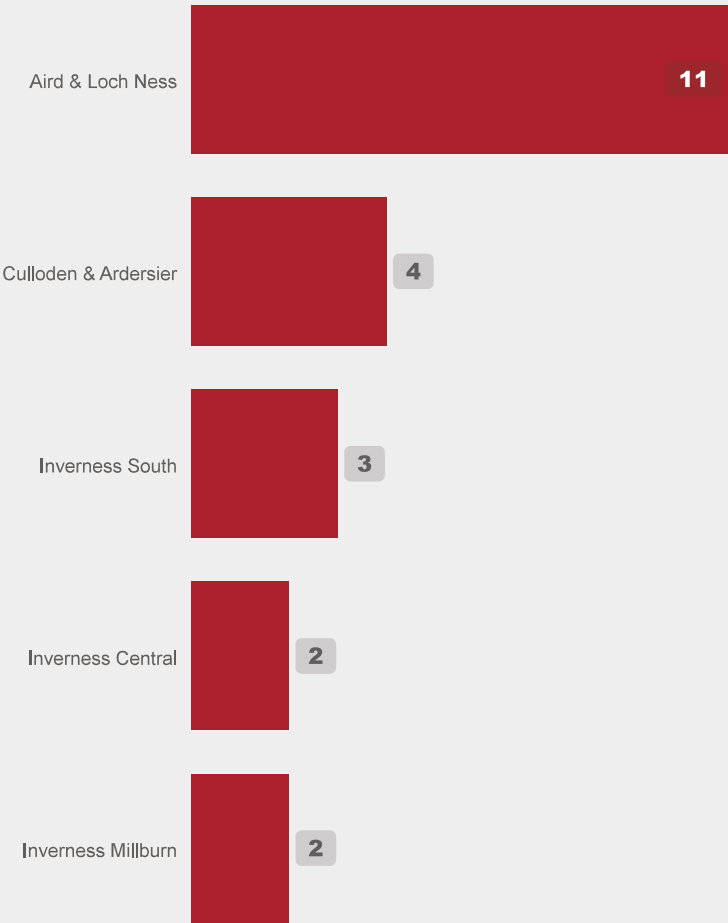
22

Road Traffic Collisions in this period

Property Type	Incidents
Car	16
Multiple Vehicles	4
Motor Home	2

Incident Type	Incidents
Vehicle (Non-fire)	22

Incidents by Ward



18

Non-Fatal Casualties

2

Fatal Casualties

9

People Rescued by Firefighters

Extent of Harm (Non-Fatal)



2

First Aid Given at Scene



7

Hospital Slight Injuries



9

Hospital Serious Injuries

We attended **22 Road Traffic Collisions (RTCs)** which is lower than the previous reporting period.

Our Prevention teams continue to work with partner agencies through the Highland Road Safety group, older driver Virtual Reality Scheme and Road Safety Scheme of new drivers.

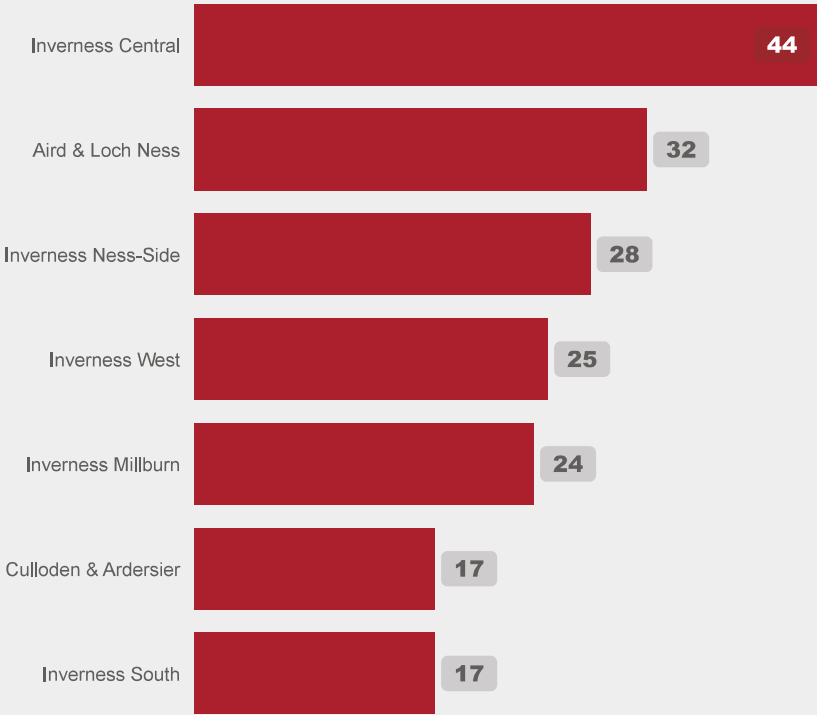
10. Home Fire Safety Visits

2025-26 Q1 & Q2

187

Home Fire
Safety Visits

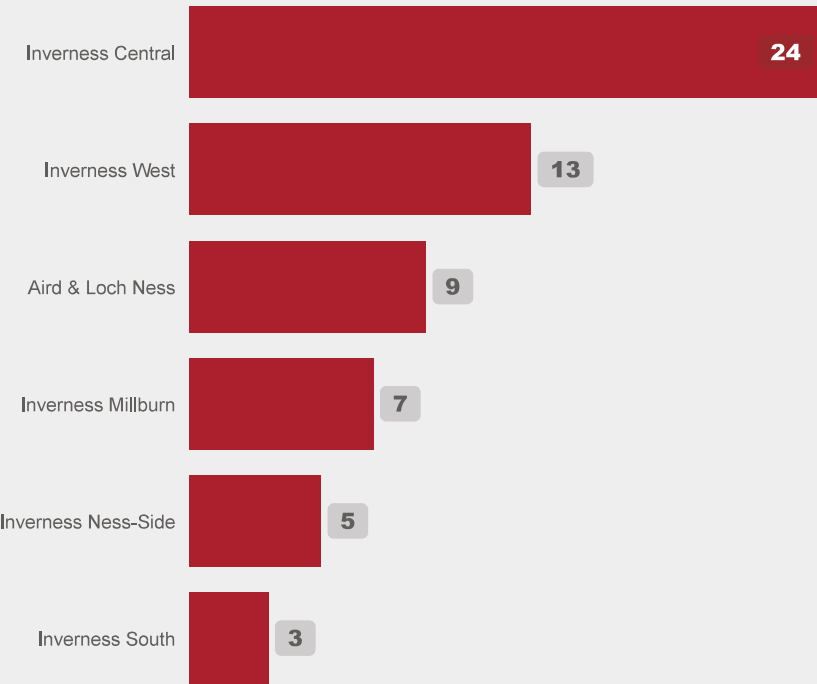
HFSVs by Ward



11. Fire Safety Enforcement

Job Type	Count
Audit	61
Specific Visit	10
Consultation	6
Short Post Fire Audit	1

Audits by Ward



Our Community Safety Advocates and Station personnel undertook **187 Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSVs)**. With the introduction of the new, modernised Home Fire Safety Visit (HFSV) system that enhances how we identify, assess and support the most at risk from fire, we may see an initial decline in referrals and HFSVs whilst the new system and referral pathways are embedded in.

12. Station Availability and Establishment

2025-26 Q1 & Q2

- 2 x Wholetime Duty System appliances at 1 Station*
- 6 x On-Call Retained Duty System appliances across 12 Stations

These Stations serve the City of Inverness and Inverness-shire population

***Please note the availability figures do not include Joint Mobilising availability.**

Station	Apr – Sept 25 Availability* %	Male	Female	Staff
Beauly	83.24%	14	0	14
Cannich	0.03%	3	1	4
Drumnadrochit	87.69%	11	1	12
Fort Augustus	82.45%	8	1	9
Foyers	65.77%	7	0	7
Inverness	82.26%	15	0	15
Inverness Wholetime	N/A	56	12	68

Anthony Nolan

A successful day at Millburn Academy recruiting 73 students for the Anthony Nolan stem cell register, working in partnership with SFRS and the Anthony Nolan Charity. The current recruitment total has now reached 446 people.

Every 13 minutes someone in the UK is diagnosed with a blood cancer. A stem cell transplant from a stranger can be their only hope. If you or someone you know, who are aged 16-30, would like to join the stem cell register you can find out more visiting [Anthony Nolan – Join the Register](#).



Inverness Fire Station Open Day



Inverness Community Fire Station held their Open Day in September, which saw a large attendance from the public. There were out various fundraising activities and several demonstrations which displayed the skills of our crews. The fantastic amount of just over £7100 was raised which saw three charities benefiting from the day – Fire Fighters Charity, MFR Cash for Kids and Highland Young Carers receiving a share of the monies.

Emergency Life Support Training



Inverness, Fort Augustus and Drumnadrochit Community Fire Stations in a joint initiative with the Lucky2Bhere charity held training sessions for the public to learn vital emergency life support training, which included how to use an Automatic External Defibrillator and how to carry out Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation. All sessions were very well attended.



Celebrating 225th Birthday of James Braidwood



Green Watch from Inverness Fire Station, together with Deputy Chief Officer Andrew Watt were honoured to be asked to join a service at St Michael and All Angels' Church, Inverness, to mark the 225th birthday of James Braidwood, recognised as the founder of the Fire and Rescue Service as we know it today. Canon Dr Iain MacRitchie blessed one of our fire appliances.



Biker Down



A Biker Down event, in association with the Scottish Ambulance Service took place at Inverness Community Fire Station. A group of 40 riders from the Highland Classic Motorcycle Club and ILM took part in the essential safety training and learning lifesaving skills that could make a real difference on the road.

Highland Pride

Personnel from Inverness Station were in attendance at the Highland Pride event which was held in Inverness.



Charity Car Wash

Inverness Fire Station held a charity car wash, which raise a significant amount of money which was split between the Fire Fighters Charity and Lucky2BHere.



Beaulieu Station



Crew from Beaulieu Community Fire Station received commendations from the Fire Service after they were required to perform successful CPR on a Canadian tourist, utilising an AED provided by the Lucky2BHere charity, at Struy, near Inverness. The incident resulted in a strengthening of partnership with the Scottish Ambulance Service and Lucky2BHere, who now provide lifesaving skills training to members of the public in conjunction with SFRS.



Drowning Prevention Week

As part of the NFCC drowning prevention week, where members from our Community Action Team visited Inverness Marina to provide advice to boat owners.



14. Glossary of Terms

Term - What it means

ADF

Accidental Dwelling Fire.

HFSV

Home Fire Safety Visit.

PDIR

Post Domestic Incident Response, a term used to indicate actions taken following attendance at a fire or other incident in the home. PDIRs include amongst things the offer of a free follow up home fire safety visit.

RTC

Road Traffic Collision.

Special Service

Calls to incidents which are not fires or false alarms such as RTCs, rescues, flooding, incidents involving hazardous materials or the provision of assistance to other agencies.

UFAS

Unwanted Fire Alarm Signals. When an automatic fire detection and alarm system is activated as a result of anything other than an actual fire the activation is classed as a false alarm. If an attendance is made to such an event by the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service, then the event is recorded as an UFAS incident.

UFAS Policy Change

In response to COVID, on the 6th May 2020, the SFRS decided to send 1 pump to UFAS premises that did not have their own Predetermined attendance (PDA).

As of 1st July 2023, the COVID interim 1 pump response was ended and a new UFAS policy was implemented.

The new policy is to call challenge all UFAS incidents with the intention of non-attendance. Hospitals, care homes, and sleeping risk premises are all exempt and receive either 2 pumps or their premise specific PDA.



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INTELLIGENCE

Design, figures and charts by the Business Intelligence team.